



**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

USSN: 09/205,251

Atty Dkt: DURE-021

**ART GROUP UNIT 3763**

**PATENT**

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: 23 April 2004

Signature: Thomas P. McCracken Printed: Thomas P. McCracken

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Arenberg, et al.

Title: **CONTROLLED RELEASE SYSTEM FOR DELIVERING  
THERAPEUTIC AGENTS INTO THE INNER EAR**

Serial No.: 09/205,251  
Examiner: Thanh, LoAn H.

Filing Date: 12/04/98  
Group Art Unit: 3763

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**APR 30 2004**

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
--EXPEDITED PROCEDURE, GROUP 3763--**

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated 23 February 2004, that Action having been made final. This paper is being filed within the 2-month period for response, and as such no extension fees are needed. Reconsideration of the application in light of the following claim amendments and accompanying remarks is respectfully requested. In addition, applicants have filed a Notice of Appeal with the appropriate fees simultaneously herewith.

04/28/2004 MAHME1 00000129 501953 09205251

02 FC:2202 144.00 DA  
03 FC:2201 43.00 DA